An Update on the Chicago Neighborhood Stabilization Program

Ellen Sahli
Department of Community Development

March 11, 2010

Investing in the Community

- Over the past 10-15 years, the City and its partners have invested millions of dollars on projects aimed at revitalizing our neighborhoods.
- New schools, police stations, fire stations, libraries, affordable housing, retail centers
- The foreclosure crisis is threatening those investments and the stability of long-standing community anchors.

Greater Grand Crossing









North Lawndale









East Garfield Park









Auburn Gresham











Humboldt Park







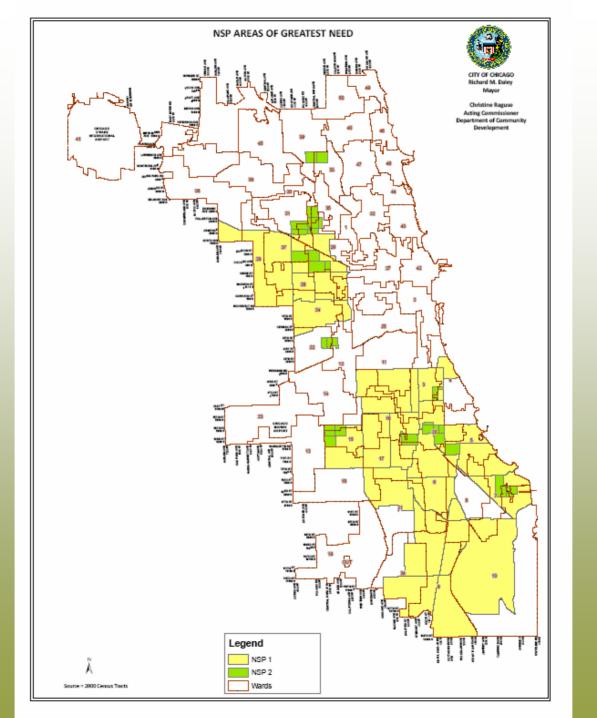


City of Chicago Foreclosure Statistics

	2007	2008	2009
Filings	13,872	20,592	22,685
Completions	6,118	9,948	8,815

- •The City of Chicago saw an overall increase in foreclosure filings of 10.2 percent from 2008 to 2009.
- •The City of Chicago saw an 11.4 percent decrease in completed foreclosure auctions between 2008 and 2009.

Source: Woodstock Institute, February 2010



Identifying Target Areas

- To protect recent development and make a significant impact, NSP investments must be strategic and targeted.
- NSP target areas have been identified based on proximity to recent public and private investments.
- Government intervention is necessary to stabilize all these areas.

City of Chicago's NSP Strategy

- Goal: assist 2,000-2,500 units over 3-5 years in targeted areas utilizing NSP 1 & 2 funds
- Focus on acquisition and rehab of bank-owned properties
- Determine most appropriate disposition option:
 - Homeownership
 - Rental
 - Demolition
- A non-profit organization, Mercy Portfolio Services, is working at the direction of the City to acquire, redevelop, and reposition the properties.

Developing the Chicago NSP Infrastructure

- Established a rolling RFQ process to identify developers to rehab homes
 - RFQ posted at <u>www.chicagonsp.org</u>
- Identified vendors to assist in implementing the program
- Developed a financial model to ensure ready access to capital for acquisition and rehab
 - NSP is a reimbursement grant: no up-front funds

Use \$55 million HUD grant to acquire and rehab 1st pool of homes.











Use program income from sales of 1st pool to purchase and rehab 2nd pool.







Use program income from sales of 2nd pool to purchase and rehab 3rd pool.



NSP Single-family Home Financing Example

Acquisition Cost: \$20,000

Rehab & Soft Costs: \$168,000

Total Cost: \$188,000

Sales Price: \$188,000

NSP Homebuyer Subsidy: \$60,000

NSP Program Income to Reinvest: \$128,000

Status of Chicago NSP

- Identified more than 1,100 vacant units for potential acquisition
- Assessed more than 600 vacant bank-owned units
 - Assessment includes an appraisal, scope of work, and financial analysis
- Made offers on more than 550 units
- Acquired 191 units (54 properties)
- Additional 97 units (11 properties) under contract and set to close in the next 30-60 days
- Rehab underway on first group of properties
- More than \$26 million, or 48% of the grant, has been committed to acquiring and rehabbing properties, compared to 35% committed nationally

Chicago NSP Basics

- Average acquisition cost/unit: \$19,799
- Average percent discount from appraised value: 16%
- Average estimated rehab cost/unit: \$116,249
- Average estimated rehab cost/square foot: \$114
- Average estimated Total Development Cost (TDC) /unit: \$136,318
- Average estimated TDC/square foot: \$123.14
- Average estimated subsidy unit: \$59,313

NSP₂

- Additional \$2 billion allocated in ARRA
 - Unlike first round, HUD must distribute funds on a competitive basis
- HUD has awarded the City of Chicago \$98 million
 - Second-largest award for a municipality, fifth-largest overall award
 - HUD received nearly 500 applications and only made 56 awards
- 36 census tracts in 12 community areas approved for funding

HUD Deadlines

- NSP 1 funds must be committed by September 27, 2010 and spent by March 27, 2013.
- 50% of NSP 2 funds must be spent by February 11, 2012 and 100% must be spent by February 11, 2013.

NSP Facts

- New HUD program designed to address vacant, foreclosed homes in hard-hit communities
- Funds address vacant and foreclosed homes, not assist homeowners who are in foreclosure
- Reimbursement program: no up-front funds
- Not all boarded-up properties are eligible